



WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 16, 1910.

Completed six months and seven days ahead of contract time, the giant 20,000-ton battleship Delaware was delivered to the Navy Department yesterday by her builders, the Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Company. In the building of the Delaware and the North Dakota, the Newport News Company and the Fore River Ship & Engine Building Company, of Massachusetts, engaged in the greatest battleship building race in the history of the world in which the Virginia yards won. Besides being completed in less time than the North Dakota, the Delaware cost the Navy Department nearly \$500,000 less than the Fore River built ship, the bid of the Newport News Company being \$3,987,000 for the Delaware, while that of the Fore River plant was \$4,440,000 for the North Dakota. The Newport News yard has built some of the finest ships in the navy and at less cost to the government. Virginia excels.

RICHARD T. CRANE, the multi-millionaire manufacturer, of Chicago, in a volume just published, tells the result of an investigation into the methods, uses, and expenses of "higher education" of all kinds. He charges that the millions spent annually on universities, colleges and technical and agricultural schools and law and medical schools in general are swallowed up in one of the most gigantic "swindles" of the age. Among other things he says:

College professors and teachers are prepared to give advice on all subjects. As \$2,000 a year teachers they tell us how to turn out \$5,000 and \$10,000 a year business men. Isn't it a bit strange that it never occurred to these smart college fellows to go into business for themselves? Why draw a small salary for telling young men how to draw big salaries if you are capable of drawing the big salary yourself?

This reminds us of a bald-headed man in New York who amassed a fortune by selling a lotion which he claimed would be the use of a few bottles make hair grow on craniums which had become as clear of capillary growth as tennis or billiard balls.

REV. A. EUGENE BARTLETT delivered a sermon in Chicago Monday in which he said:

Many were the extraordinary things Christendom would do to 2010, if this busy life in planet did not collide with a wondering star in the meantime and explode like a peony squib. They will blacken the horizon like birds, in airships, traveling at a velocity of 200 miles an hour. They will reject with abhorrence all animal foods and subsist upon fruits and vegetables. Strawberries will be as large as apples and peas the size of walnuts. They will be two inches taller on the average than men of the present and will live to the age of 180 years. Instead of setting off silly roman candles and skyrockets when they desire to hold a celebration, they will embark in a ship of the air and alight at the foot of the aurora borealis.

AFTER a two-years fight waged by some of the members of the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, the "men's club," which provided moving pictures, vaudeville and smoking facilities to draw men to the fold, the church has been officially declared out of business. It has been said that the church started out to convert the world, but that the world has converted the church. The introduction to churches of features similar to those mentioned above for the purpose of keeping up attendance at churches has always proven a failure.

MEMBERS of the Atlantic Coast Baptist Ministerial Conference composed of pastors of colored churches, in session at Red Branch, N. J., adopted a scale of fees for weddings and funerals. The resolution, passed unanimously, is as follows:

Resolved that we preach no funerals of crashers, cardplayers, drunkards and the like and persons who attend no church, except we are paid \$5, and that we perform no matrimony services for less than \$5 at home and none out of town for less than \$5 and carriage. For political speeches \$10 will be charged and for religious public addresses only \$5 will be exacted.

From Washington.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

Washington, February 16.

George W. Neville, of the New York Cotton Exchange, defended his institution today against the attacks of the southern cotton planters, before the House committee on Agriculture. The cotton exchange rules, he said, prevented wrong dealing.

General S. B. Van Sant, former governor of Minnesota and Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R.; Edwin L. Holbrook, commander of the department of the Potomac, and Colonel W. S. Odell called at the White House today to invite the president to attend the national encampment of the G. A. R. at Atlantic City next September. The president was unable to accept definitely.

All Washington is today discussing, with no little indignation, the statement of Warden Thomas McKee, of the District of Columbia jail, that his institution is a menace to public health and

safety, a disgrace, and an unpardonable blot on the government of the national capital. McKee, in a stirring plea for prison reform in Washington, told the Brotherhood of the First Congressional Church that the District jail and the "famous Black Hole of Calcutta" were in the same category. He said that 125 women are packed into cells designed to accommodate 48, and that 655 men, white and black, are jammed like cattle into cells built for 340. McKee recommended the establishment of industrial institutions instead of jails, asking particularly that prisoners be given a five hundred acre farm, which he said, he could work, making the prisoners self-supporting.

"If you pass any legislation to restrict the operation of wireless telegraph, you are clipping the wings of American genius," said H. O. Clay to the House naval committee today. Clay represented the National Electric Signalling Company of which Professor Fessenden, the wireless inventor is the head. He declared that he represents the inventor and not the commercial company. A protest against the McCumber bill to provide for Federal grading and classification of grain was made to the Senate committee on agriculture today by representatives of the National Grain Dealers' Association, the Chicago Chamber of Commerce and the Baltimore Chamber of Commerce.

The Fitzer bill to place Gen. Sicksel on the retired list as a lieutenant general, was reported from the House committee on military affairs. It is expected to pass the House next week.

Commander Peary will be given the thanks of Congress, the rights of the floor and a sum of money equal to what he would have received if he had been promoted in rank. This decision was reached informally today by members of the House committee on naval affairs. It is thought that this proposition will be passed by the committee unanimously.

Seamanship and railroad men who are protesting against certain provisions of the Townsend Interstate Commerce bill filed their grievances today before the House committee on interstate commerce. All of them asserted that it would be a great hardship to bring the business of water transportation under the control of the Interstate Commerce Commission. All they wanted just at present was to be let alone.

A heroic bronze statue of the late Senator James Harlan, of Iowa, arrived at the Capitol today and was placed in Statuary Hall between the figures of Blair and Benton, of Missouri. It is Iowa's first contribution to Statuary Hall and was made by Miss N. V. Walker, Senator Harlan's niece. Senator Allison in the Senate. The official unveiling of the statue will take place in a few days.

By game in the mining world appeared today to urge favorable action on the bill recently passed by the House to create a bureau of mines in the Interior Department.

There is worry at the White House over the long delays that Congress seems to find necessary in its consideration of the presidential measures, and the president has reached the conclusion that something must be done. Today he began calling up the senators who have charge of his measures. Mr. Beveridge, sponsor for the Arizona-New Mexico statehood measure; Mr. Capper, of Montana, who introduced the postal savings bank bill, and Mr. Borah were summoned to the presidential sanctum to-day and each of them received a sharp call. The president is anxious to clean up the minor details of his programme in the Senate, in order that the big projects may have a clear way, when they come up for consideration. He sees no reason for delaying the Arizona-New Mexico statehood bill or the Alaska reorganization measures. For weeks he has casually urged that things be hurried along but today he came out in the open and told the senators that the delay has gone far enough. Congress has been in session 11 weeks, and the presidential programme is practically untouched. If Congress does not heed the injunction of the president a presidential message demanding action will be probable result.

The international fisheries agreement, arranged by Prof. David Starr Jordan, of Leland-Stanford University, on behalf of the United States was today returned to the State Department by the Senate foreign relations committee for correction. The action was unanimously taken. The agreement relates to all international waters between the United States and Canada.

About a dozen Sioux Indians called on the president today. They had been in Washington for a week protesting before the Senate committee on Indian Affairs against the opening of their reservation, and they desired to say "how" to President Taft before returning to Montana, and to give him a Crow warbird, thus making him a chief of the tribe.

The Senate passed a joint resolution authorizing the president to thank the government of Italy for certain valuable engravings presented to the Congressional Library as an expression of gratitude for the assistance rendered Mexico earthquake sufferers.

Senate Newlands, offered an amendment to the rivers and harbors bill providing for an inland waterways commission to consider all conservation problems and formulate plans for protecting natural resources.

The consular and diplomatic bill will be taken up tomorrow.

A little fight was started in the Senate today against the bill providing for the issue of \$30,000,000 in certificates of indebtedness to complete present irrigation projects. An effort was made to have it given right of way but it failed.

Several senators objected to consideration of Senator Davis said: "This bill carries about \$50,000,000 and I think it should not be considered." It was read and went over.

Senator Beveridge, suggested that the postal savings banks be made the official business and Senator Carter (rep. Mont.) made a motion to that effect, unanimous consent being refused. The motion prevailed without a division.

Senator Carter said Senator Bailey would be ready to speak tomorrow.

The vice president held last night that these proceedings were irregular and could not be effective until after two o'clock. Before this could be thrashed out, the Senate went into executive session and at 1:09 adjourned until tomorrow.

HOUSE.

Senator Lodge's bill to create "The Academy of Immortals" was given a cold shoulder by the House of Representatives today. The bill, which passed the Senate, incorporates two hundred and fifty authors and artists as "the national institute of arts and letters."

When it was called up in the House today, Representative Fitzgerald asked for a vote on whether the House would consider the bill. The vote was 83 to 83 and the bill was not considered.

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Today's Telegraphic News

Governor Mann Repeats Smith. (Special dispatch to the Alexandria Gazette.)

Richmond, Feb. 16.—Governor Mann today repeated Henry Smith, colored, who was to have been electrocuted on Friday for participation in the murder of Walter F. Sells, in the confessions of Alexandria on the night of March 6, 1909, to March 18. The governor's action was the result of his desire to take time to go over the papers in the case.

The State-Wide Bill

(Special dispatch to the Alexandria Gazette.)

Richmond, Va., Feb. 16.—Hearings on the Strode bill to enable acting began today in the presence of an audience so large that the committee had to move to the Senate chamber. Senator Strode explained the bill. He said it was his own measure and that it conferred with the state laws and with the views of the Anti-Saloon League officials. Samuel S. Kelley, representing the state liquor dealers, suggested a postponement of the hearing until tonight but Dr. Cannon replied effectively. No conclusions were reached by the committee. Trains brought in scores of temperance men and women this morning from all points of the state.

The Seine Again Causing Trouble.

Paris, Feb. 16.—The flood situation in Paris and its suburbs again assumed a serious aspect today, forcing a second evacuation of the houses in Alfortville and other of the suburbs and undoing a large part of the repair work that had been done since the former crisis was passed. A further rise of four or five feet in the Seine is predicted as a result of the general rains and the swollen headwaters of the Seine, and the authorities do not conceal their fear that the new flood crest may equal if not surpass that of two weeks ago.

The stage of the Seine at the Pont d'Austerlitz today was 19 feet 5 inches and it will undoubtedly go to 24 feet by tomorrow or within four feet of the recent maximum stage. Grenelle and Javel have been reflooded and conditions in these sections are almost as bad as formerly. One of the worst features of the new spread of water is that it will make it necessary again to disinfest a large part of the city. Hundreds of poor are again flocking into the city, the water having driven them from their homes. The prolonged closing of the hundreds of factories along the Seine has increased the industrial stagnation, and hundreds of workmen, who hitherto have not applied for aid, are now being forced to do so. Another month of idleness is ahead of most of the factorymen.

Hall Attempts to Hang Himself.

Portsmouth, N. H., Feb. 16.—James Hall, the naval prisoner, who recently made a false confession of murdering Anna Schumacher, in Rochester, N. Y., and who was returned here when it was found his tale was false, today tried to commit suicide by hanging. He was discovered by a prison guard, however, and cut down before his life was extinct.

Attempted Suicide.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 16.—Miss Agnes Elkins, niece of Senator Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, society woman and aspirant for stage honors, attempted suicide by shooting herself in her room at the Willard Hotel today. A bullet from a small revolver struck just over her heart, inflicting a dangerous, but not necessarily fatal wound. She has a chance to recover.

Miss Elkins is 26 years old. She is the granddaughter of Dr. H. H. Ford. Her father was a brother of Senator Wilkins. Her mother, who died last winter was formerly a society and club woman of Kansas City.

Higher Prices for Pork.

Chicago, Feb. 16.—Packers and provision men predicted today that the prices of eggs and hog products within the next few weeks will establish new high record prices, eclipsing even the high average of yesterday which was the highest since the civil war. The average price paid by packers yesterday was \$9.11 a hundred weight. Packers declare they expect the price of live pork to go to \$9.50 a hundred weight.

Suicide.

Natchez, Miss., Feb. 16.—Vida Davis, brother-in-law of President Finley, of the Southern Railway, and of Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, killed himself today by firing a lead of buckshot into his chest. He was a kinsman of former President Jefferson Davis of the Confederacy.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES.

J. P. Morgan sailed today from New York on the Cedric for Mediterranean ports for a short vacation.

Jennie Kekelasky, 18, despondent over an unhappy love affair, committed suicide in New York today by jumping from the roof of a six-story tenement house.

Thomas V. Donnelly, for a number of years manager of the Murray Hill Theatre in New York, is dead in that city.

Fire early this morning threatened destruction in the big oil plant of the Pure Oil Company near Claymont, Del. A large valve on a pump at the refinery blew out after midnight and started the flames. The firemen succeeded after considerable difficulty in placing the fire under control.

The Turkish government today signified its desire to have a European alienist examine Abdul Hamid, the deposed sultan, who has gone insane at Silivri, where he is an exile, and is starving himself to death.

Miss Essie Stasser, of Bethlehem, Pa., was found asphyxiated in her room in a boarding house in Philadelphia, today. Escaping gas from a heating stove caused death.

Standard Army Shoes for men. The most comfortable and durable shoe made can be had at J. A. Marshall & Bros., 422 King street.

The Legislature.

SENATE

Carrying out the recommendation of Governor Swanson as to the proposition to amend the constitution of the United States so as to permit the levying of a tax on incomes, the Senate committee on finance yesterday reported favorably the ratification of the amendment. Concurrence on the part of two-thirds of the state legislature will be necessary before Congress can declare the amendment adopted. The resolution of ratification is now on the Senate calendar, and will come up in its regular order.

Considerable increase in revenue from license taxes of insurance companies doing business in this state will be the result of the bill raising the rate of this class of taxation passed by the Senate yesterday. Life insurance companies will have to pay 1 per cent, instead of 1 per cent, of their gross incomes into the treasury of the state, while the fire companies must pay 1 per cent. In place of the present rate of 1 per cent. In each case the increase, as will be seen, amounts to one-half of 1 per cent. of all receipts from Virginia risks.

The bill was passed by a vote of 26 to 5. The Senate adopted a rule forbidding the calling up of any bill out of order. The Senate finance committee reported favorably the bill which imposes a license tax of five to twenty dollars on all automobiles, graded on the horse power of each machine.

Favorable reports were received on the following bills: to penalize the improper retention of goods sold for cash on delivery; to allow certain judges other than those now prescribed by law to act as arbitrators to perform the marriage ceremony; to prohibit the direction of verdicts; to further regulate the periodical appointment of land assessors; to punish barratry; to amend the present law governing the appointment of insanity commissions; to provide an appropriation for the Virginia Industrial and Training Home for girls; to permit the transfer of a site for the Battle Abbey at the Soldiers' Home; to create a memorial to Patrick Henry; to create a state board of accountancy; to provide a tax on automobiles.

Bills were introduced to amend section 70 of the code relative to compensation of members of the electoral board; to amend section 848 of the code in relation to the compensation of supervisors; to amend section 2106 of the code as to the penalty for failure to comply with the provisions of section 2105 of the code; to amend section 1015-A of an act relating to local assessments; to prohibit the buying and selling of railroad franchises or other metals used in the operation of railroads without authority, and to impose a penalty for the violation of this statute; to amend section 2844 of the code in relation to public holidays, and to establish the entire day of every Saturday as a public holiday and a non-working day and non-business day as regards negotiable instruments, and as a half holiday as regards the transaction of business generally, approved March 9, 1906.

HOUSE.

In the House the optometry bill was defeated by a vote of 33 to 52. The member from Roanoke dealt a telling blow at the measure by his challenge that he would vote for the bill if any one could show him that the practice of optometry was recognized as a profession or was given any sort of standing by any reputable medical college in the United States.

The female labor bills were reported unfavorably from the committee on general laws. The object was to allow the employers and employees to agree to work the sixty hours of labor each week, so that longer time may be used five days with which to give a practical holiday on Saturday. The matter will likely be heard in the House before it is disposed of.

A bill was taken up out of order and passed taking from boards of supervisors the power to issue bonds and borrow money for the purpose of building court houses. This power will be vested in the people on an election.

The House took what was construed as an unfavorable action on the proposition for an amendment to the constitution so that voters may qualify by the payment of poll taxes ninety days, instead of six months, in advance of an election. By a large majority the resolution was sent to the committee for courts of justice, although it had been acted upon favorably by the committee on privileges and elections.

Consideration of the bill requiring division school superintendents to be residents of their districts was begun by the House, but not concluded.

The bill requiring officials to keep a record of their fees was reported favorably from the committee on finance.

The committee on cities, cities and towns reported the bill allowing boards of supervisors to appropriate money from general county funds to aid agricultural free schools.

Bills were introduced: To amend an act to provide for state money aid, in addition to convict labor, for the improvement of public roads; to amend section 608 of the code in relation to lists of property, etc., delinquent for taxes; to direct the continued presentation of unpaid delinquent taxes and levies by the treasurers of the several counties and cities of this commonwealth; to amend section 549 of the code with reference to licenses issued by commissioners of the revenue; a bill to prohibit the buying and selling of railroad franchises or other metals used in the operation of railroads without authority; a bill to amend section 1 of chapter 8 of an act concerning public service corporations; to stipulate what shall constitute a full crew on passenger and freight trains in the state; prohibiting the direction of verdicts; to what cases applicable; (1) amend section 343-A of the code in relation to the sale of real estate held as courtesy or dower, etc.; to amend section 848 of the code in relation to the compensation of jurors; to amend an act relating to local assessments.

Oysters and prohibition will get hearings today before committees of both houses.

Following many hours of argument for and against the Throckmorton dairy inspection bill, the House committee on agriculture and mining last night was forced to pass the matter by a tie vote this afternoon, because of a tie vote on the proposition to report the measure.

A hearing was given in the afternoon by the Senate committee on public institutions and education on the proposition to establish a female normal school at Bedford.

News of the Day.

A bill to stop hiring at West Point was passed by the Senate yesterday.

Sixteen persons were drowned yesterday in the sinking of the Danish steamship Cambodia, near Helsing.

Announcement was made by Apostolic Delegate, Mgr. Falconio today that Rev. Father John Milane, parish priest of Annesbury, Boston, has been chosen Bishop of Hartford, Conn.

The political situation in Ohio was discussed at a dinner given by President Taft at the White House last night. Ohio affairs, it is said, are not satisfactory to Mr. Taft.

Tariff negotiations between the United States and France have been stopped and may not be resumed, it is said in Washington.

A bill making eligible for pensions widows of soldiers of the civil war married since 1880 was reported to the Senate yesterday from the committee on pensions.

For the first time since 1907 the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company will be able this year to pay its full dividend of 6 per cent.

Mrs. Anna Christian Spreckels, widow of John Spreckels, died yesterday at her residence at San Francisco. She was seventy-nine years of age, and leaves four sons.

Rev. Dr. R. H. McKim, of Washington, spoke at Royal Arcanum Hall, in Baltimore, last night, in reply to Col. John S. Mosby's book on the Confederate cavalry in the Gettysburg campaign.

The rivers and harbors bill, carrying appropriations of more than \$35,000,000, with authorizations of work that will cost in excess of \$7,000,000 additional, was passed by the House last yesterday.

Hon. John Gill, of Baltimore, appeared in the House of Representatives yesterday for the first time in this session. Mr. Gill has been quite sick for many weeks.

Brigadier General Walter Howe, U. S. A., has been assigned temporarily to the command of the department of the east, succeeding M. J. Geo. Leonard Wood, who is undergoing treatment at the Johns Hopkins hospital.

The Western Union Telegraph Company directors in New York, today promoted E. Brooks, general superintendent of the eastern division of the company to be general manager of the company and to have charge of the operating end of the business.

Alexander Schafnit, general agent at Hagerstown, Md., for the Cumberland Valley and the Norfolk and Western railways, committed suicide yesterday by shooting himself through the head. Continued ill health, following a nervous breakdown, is the cause assigned.

A dispatch received in Paris by M. Trouillet, minister of colonies, from the governor of Dakar, Senegal, says that a French detachment was wiped out through an ambush in the Ouadi region. Five French officers and 110 native troops, comprising the detachment, were massacred.

There was a violent shock of earthquake at Pottery, Italy, at 4 o'clock yesterday morning. No damage was done, but the people were terrified and rushed out of their houses to the street. The shock also was felt at Oran, Reggio, and elsewhere, causing panic. No damage has been reported. There is some uneasiness concerning Messina, a small town 25 miles from Pottery, with which it is impossible to get in telegraphic communication.

Because four of its members were aggrieved a jury was dismissed by Judge John H. Pichford, in the District Court at Waggoner, near Muskogee, Okla., Monday. In extending the negroes from duty Judge Pichford said: "The laws of Oklahoma provide that negroes shall ride separately in trains and street cars; that they shall attend separate schools and eat at separate tables, and I do not propose to insult white men by making Negro serve on the jury with negroes." Negroes form half of the population of Waggoner county. Hereafter they have sat on mixed juries without question.

Stricken with apoplexy, with a lighted kerosene lamp in his hand, while endeavoring to secure a drink of water for his sick wife, Engineer J. E. Backelman, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, met with a tragic death at his home in Martinsburg, W. Va., yesterday morning, being taken to death before the other members of the household could come to his assistance. He had been attending his sick wife and started for the kitchen for water, carrying a lighted lamp. When stricken he fell and the blazing oil lighted his clothing. Death ensued in a few minutes.

AN UNIQUE WILL.

The will of the late John H. Core dividing an estate of a million dollars, \$1,000,000, "no more or no less," of which is to go for the erection of a mausoleum for himself and his wife, was filed for probate in Norfolk yesterday and contains many other unique features. He directs that the builder of the McKinley mausoleum be first consulted regarding the erection of his tomb; \$10,000 is given his nurse, Mrs. Helen Banks, "provided she does not die or desert me during my life time." \$5,000 is set aside for marking his grave in Northampton county, Virginia; \$5,000 is for a shaft to his body; \$6,000 goes to the Norfolk Protestant Hospital, which "in token of its appreciation and acknowledgment of this charity and evincing its gratitude," is to keep in repair the mausoleum, allowing no vines or shrubs to grow over the lot on which it is situated. The residue of the estate, after paying \$5,000 bequests to Clay Kilby, his friend, who is to execute the will, and James H. Walters, another friend, is divided into four parts, two being left to each of his brothers, William Thomas Core and James Caleb Core; one to his sister, Miss Margaret Agnes Core, and one to the three children of his deceased brothers. He directs that one of his nephews shall be educated for medicine and two for the law. To defend the will from contest, a bequest of \$5,000 is made to employ "the two best lawyers" who can be found.

Death of a Witness.

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 16.—John E. Scott, an important witness in the capital graft trial, who was secretary of the board of public grounds and buildings during the constitution and equipment of the state capital, was found dead early today in the best room at the home of B. A. Armistead, where he boarded. A physician pronounced death due to apoplexy, this is the sixth death of persons connected with the capital cases.

City Council.

A called meeting of the City Council was held last night for the purpose of considering the new building law. The Board of Aldermen was in session for a few minutes, but the Common Council, to which board the law was reported by the committee, was in session until about 9:30 o'clock.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

All the Aldermen were present, and after the mayor's communication giving his reasons for calling Council had been read and the action of the lower board concurred in on several papers which had been sent in at the last regular meeting, the Aldermen adjourned without waiting for the Common Council to act upon the building law, it being agreed that the Aldermen could consider it at the next regular meeting.

COMMON COUNCIL.

Council was called to order at 7:50 o'clock, with ten members present. Two members came in later.

The clerk read the mayor's call for the meeting. This called stated that the meeting was to consider the building law.

City Engineer Linn was requested to sit with the president and explain any section of the ordinance which was not understood.

The clerk then started reading the proposed ordinance.

Paragraph one fixed the fire limits. The clerk thought the limit should be extended and the members agreed. The limits were finally fixed as follows:

From the river west on the north side of Wilkes street to West street; thence to Pendleton street and thence to the river. No frame houses can be built within these limits without the consent of all adjoining property owners and the permission of Council.

Mr. Leadbeater spoke in favor of the extended limits.

Mr. Smith thought the proposed extension might be too far, but opposed no objection.

No other portion of the law caused any discussion.

Some of the provisions of the ordinance are:

Plans and specifications of proposed buildings or alterations are to be submitted to the city engineer.

The thickness of walls, the height of stories and the strength of materials are regulated. In any case not covered by this law the city engineer and committee on streets are to have authority, subject, however, to an appeal to a committee of two builders and one architect to be appointed by the mayor.

After the reading the city engineer in reply to a question from the chair said the cost of a building under the law just read would be less than under the old law. The committee having the ordinance in charge had tried to so simplify the requirements that the difficulties of building would be greatly lessened.

The chair expressed his approval of this and further stated that the ordinance had been largely drawn from the building code of the National Board of Fire Underwriters and the building laws of Washington; such of the present building laws of this city as were suited to present conditions were retained.

The ordinance was then passed, ayes 13, nays 0.

Mr. Leadbeater suggested to the city engineer to report to Council the cost of printing the building code with the view of furnishing copies to architects, contractors and others interested in order that in the future there may be no such misunderstandings as there have been in the past.

Unanimous consent was granted Mr. Burke to present a petition from the relief committee of the Co-operative Charities seeking an additional appropriation of \$300, as on account of "the increased cost of living" the original appropriation of \$1,250 had become exhausted. This was referred to the committee on finance.

Council then adjourned.

Socialist Riots in Germany.

Berlin, Feb. 16.—Scores of persons were wounded today in a socialist riot at Neumuenster, where troops with fixed bayonets charged the rioters.

Disputes from Oassel say that serious fighting with the socialist gathering for more than an hour.

The socialist demonstrations were in protest against the new Russian government's franchise bill, and were an aftermath of Sunday's demonstration, when fights occurred in half a hundred German towns.

The franchise bill which the socialists oppose relates to the "three class system," whereby electors are divided according to the amount of taxes they pay, but it provides that officers and other members of the educated classes are to be placed in the first and second classes, irrespective of the amount of their taxes. Direct instead of indirect voting is also provided for in the bill. The radicals have joined with the socialists in opposition to the bill.

Not the Nina.

Washington, February 16.—The hopes aroused by the report that the missing tug Nina had been sighted off Montauk point by the steamer Bay View heading today by a report received from Boston saying that the sighted vessel was not the Nina, but the naval tug Apache which was searching for her. There is now little doubt but that the Nina has gone down. If she were still afloat and making headway it is probable that she would have been picked up by the searchers vessels before this. The destroyer Lamson reported by way of Boston today having searched in the vicinity of Black Island and the eastern end of the sound without success. No encouraging reports have been received from any quarter.

STORMS IN FRANCE.

Dispatches from Paris say a storm which prevailed throughout France yesterday was felt principally in the east and south, telegraphic communication with which, as well as with Germany, Switzerland